COMING ATTRACTIONS

NUMBER 13 DECEMBER, 1977

NEW THIS MONTH!
SUPERMAN VS. ALI! FIRESTORM! STEEL!
LEGION TABLOID! WONDER WOMAN $1 COMIC!

December, 1977 might possibly be the biggest month in DC history, with the premiere of two titles, the publication of the long-awaited SUPERMAN VS. MUHAMMAD ALI tabloid, the release of an all-new SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES tabloid, and the launching of a bi-monthly series of Dollar Comics spectaculars.

In order to cover these bases, we're going to alter our traditional COMING ATTRACTIONS format a bit and fill you in on these important new projects.

I. FIRESTORM

Gerry Conway is nothing if he is not experienced, having written such characters as Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, Spider-Man, The Fantastic Four, The Avengers, Thor, and both Captain Marvels. When he returned to DC Comics the better part of a year ago, he did so with the desire to create a number of new super-heroes. FIRESTORM is the first of such projects.

FIRESTORM is a super-hero with two separate alter-egos: Ronnie Raymond, your typical American teen-ager, and Professor Charles Stein, Nobel Prize-winning nuclear scientist. Trapped together in an atomic power plant explosion, Stein and Raymond merge together to form FIRESTORM, The Nuclear Man!

Al Milgrom is the penciller of this new series, and he designed the costume. Jack C. Harris is the editor; FIRESTORM #1 is scheduled to hit the stands December 6th.

II. STEEL -- THE INDESTRUCTIBLE MAN

There are several hallmarks of a solid super-hero story: your character must have a certain purpose in life, he must have spectacular powers that make him larger than life, and he must be operating in an interesting situation.

When Gerry Conway created STEEL -- THE INDESTRUCTIBLE MAN, he did so with the situation -- the environment -- already in mind.

The time is September, 1939. Young Hank Haywood, protégé to the brilliant scientist Dr. Gilbert Giles, postpones a promising career to join the Marines in anticipation of U.S. involvement in the European war. After basic training, Haywood is spending his leave with Giles' daughter Gloria when they get caught up in a fantastic Nazi plot to destroy the Marine base. The saboteurs' bomb accidently goes off, killing the Nazis and crippling Haywood.

When Hank awakes in the hospital, he discovers he is paralyzed from head to foot. Dr. Giles offers an unusual proposal.

Haywood's broken bones are replaced with reinforced steel and his ruined muscle tissues are chemically regenerated. Power packs are implanted in his joints and lungs. After skin grafts, physical therapy, and a soul-searching session with Giles' daughter, Hank fashions a costume and becomes STEEL -- THE INDESTRUCTIBLE MAN!

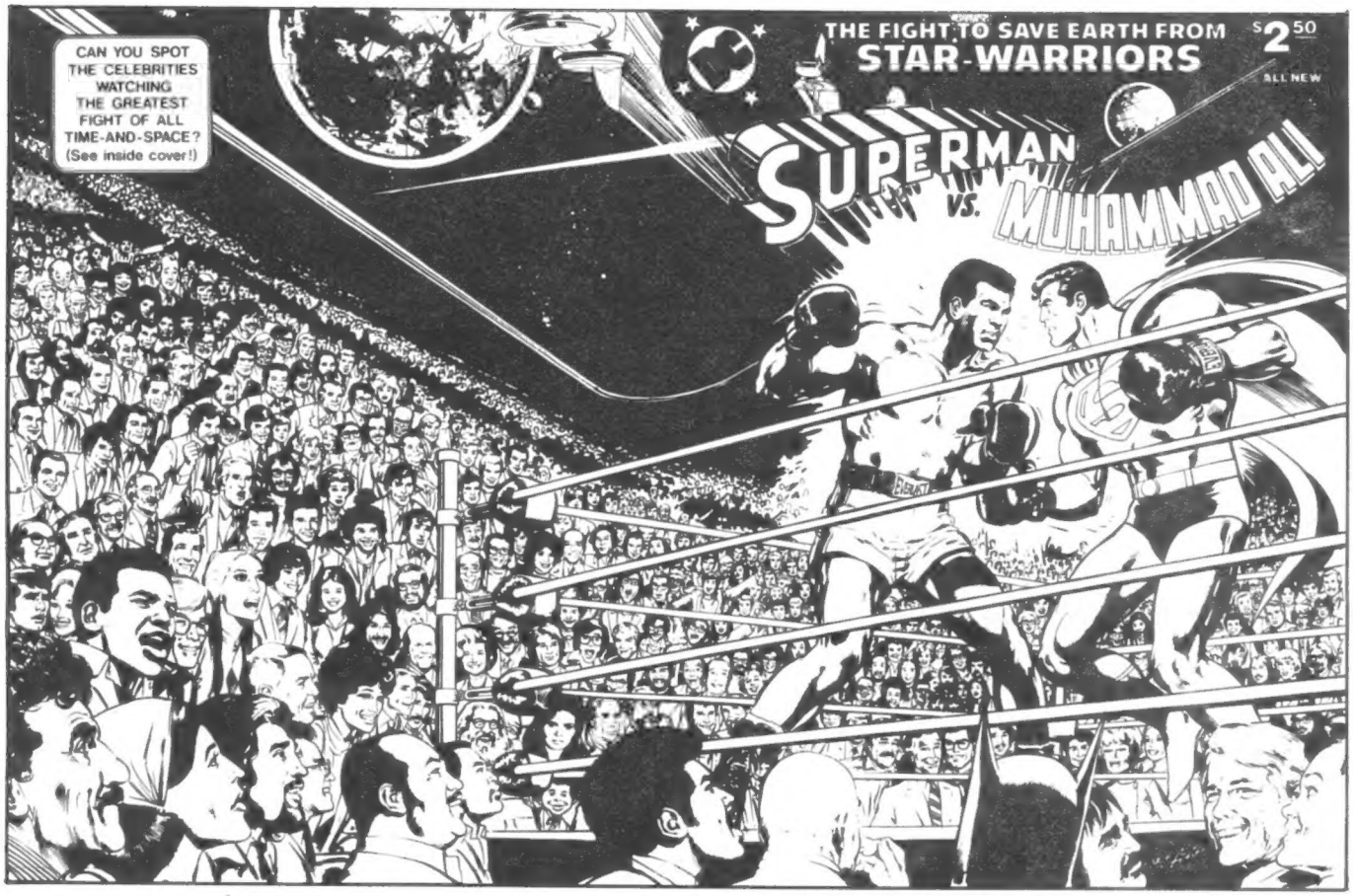
Don Heck is the penciller on this project, and Al Milgrom is the editor. STEEL -- THE INDESTRUCTIBLE MAN #1 goes on sale December 22nd.

III. SUPERMAN VS. MUHAMMAD ALI

After more than eighteen months of negotiations, planning, plotting, pencilling, scripting, inking and editing, the book they said could never be published is finally nearing release. In DC's ground-breaking 10 inch by 13 inch tabloid size, the SUPERMAN VS. MUHAMMAD ALI epic, all 72 pages of it, has (as of this writing) almost been completed.

DC COMING ATTRACTIONS, Vol. 2, No. 13, December, 1977. Published monthly by DC COMICS INC., 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019. Copyright © 1977 by DC Comics, Inc.

Jenette Kahn, Publisher
Mike Gold, Editor
Jack Adler, Vice-Pres., Production
Sol Harrison, President
Arthur Gutowitz, Treasurer


CAN YOU SPOT THE CELEBRITIES WATCHING THE GREATEST FIGHT OF ALL TIME-AND-SPACE? (See inside cover!)
THE FIGHT TO SAVE EARTH FROM STAR-WARRIORS
$2.50
ALL NEW
SUPERMAN
VS.
MUHAMMAD ALI

The plot is as simple as it is cosmic. In order to prevent Earth's annihilation by aliens, two of the planet's greatest heroes must enter into combat in an intergalactic boxing match. Selected are Superman and Muhammad Ali, the only two individuals who have transcended mere super-herodom (and can anyone really doubt Ali's super-hero status?) to enter the ranks of American mythology.

The credits on this book are as amazing as the storyline -- five award-winners have been teamed-up on the creative side. Neal Adams provided the pencils and the final scripting. Dick Giordano the inking. Denny O'Neil the initial plotting. Julius Schwartz the editing. And Gaspar Saladino the lettering. 72 pages of that line-up alone makes this book a classic.

The artwork for this tome -- reproduced throughout this issue of DC COMING ATTRACTIONS -- speaks for itself. SUPERMAN VS. MUHAMMAD ALI will hit the newsstands and bookstores on or about December 15th, if various distribution considerations fall into place. The book is well worth waiting for.

IV. SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES

DC's second all-new tabloid release this month will be a special 72 page SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES volume consisting of one 64 page story and an eight page origins-and-powers section.

The Boy of Steel is winging his way to the 30th Century to attend the long-awaited marriage of Lightning Lad and Saturn Girl. Unfortunately, Superboy confronts a 30th Century vastly different from that with which he is familiar -- everybody (with the exception of the Legionnaires) appears to be quite mad, living out a barbaric and senseless lifestyle! After the ceremony, Lightning Lad and Saturn Girl are kidnapped by The Lunarites and taken to the moon. Wildfire leads a delegation to rescue them, as Superboy leads another team back to 1978 to discover the roots of this barbaric change.

The story winds up with an end-of-time showdown involving the Time Trapper (whose mysterious origin is revealed) and all 23 Legionnaires. This spectacular story was scripted by Paul Levitz, pencilled by Legion artist extraordinaire Mike Grell and inked by Vince Colletta. The origins back-up was scripted by Levitz and drawn by Jim Sherman and Jack Abel. Joe Orlando edited the entire project.

Again, the scheduled release date for SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES tabloid is December 15th, distribution considerations permitting.

V. THE DOLLAR COMICS SPECTACULAR SERIES

Due to the success of DC's Dollar Comics series (SUPERMAN FAMILY, WORLD'S FINEST COMICS, G.I. COMBAT, and THE HOUSE OF MYSTERY), the line is being expanded from two releases monthly to three. January will see

the debut of the new BATMAN FAMILY Dollar Comic, but we'll be focusing on the bi-monthly series of "spectaculars" premiering this month.

DC's Dollar Comics spectacular series will each focus on one major character, each annually -- but not always -- featured in one book-length story. Remember, a book-lengther in these titles runs 64 pages.

December 13th will see the release of the first of such titles, the WONDER WOMAN SPECTACULAR. Written by Jack C. Harris (who takes over as the regular WONDER WOMAN writer next month), the story concerns the God of War's plot to increase his powers and to perpetuate World War II. Mars places a powerful disc on one warrior -- a disc that will make the wearer invincible, channel the war force to Mars, and, at the same time, perpetuate the conflict. The Amazons discover this plot, and summon Wonder Woman to discover the wearer and capture the disc.

This blockbuster is unique in its structure. Regular Wonder Woman artist Jose Delbo pencilled those pages where the story is told from WW's viewpoint, but several other artists handle the other aspects of the story. Russ Heath pencilled the Amazon pages, Dick Ayers handled the villains pages, and Steve Ditko handled the gods pages. Vince Colletta inked the whole project -- save for the Ditko pages, which Steve inked himself. Garcia Lopez and Dick Giordano turned in the cover; Larry Hama edited.

THE FLASH SPECTACULAR follows the WONDER WOMAN SPECTACULAR in February.

Odd Items, Noteworthy News

Not much space left to tell you about what's going into the other thirty-three DC titles published during December, but we'll do our best...Al Weiss pencils this month's SHAZAM! (#34), a battle issue which features Capt. Marvel Jr. and Captain Nazi, and ushers in a new, more realistic look to the feature...The New Gods and The Flash team-up in SUPER-TEAM FAMILY #15...The Joker's saga continues in DETECTIVE #476, by Englehart and Rogers...Walt Simonson pencils this month's book-length SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES 60çer (#237)...Dick Giordano will ink Joe Staton's pencils on the second Power Girl story, this in SHOWCASE #98...Joe Staton is also doing a fill-in pencils job on WONDER WOMAN #241, Gerry Conway's last... Batman and Wonder Woman team-up in BRAVE AND THE BOLD #140...WEIRD WAR #61 is a special science-fiction issue, featuring stories by Roger McKenzie and Howie Chaykin and Robert Kanigher and Alex Nino...DOORWAY TO NIGHTMARE #2 features a book-lengther by Gerry Conway and Vicente Alcazar and a Mike Kaluta cover...The prolific Joe Staton is also pencilling the Superboy story in ADVENTURE #456.

SILENCE! YOU WILL SPEAK WHEN SPOKEN TO!
OH, MY...
...YOU ARE IN TROUBLE!
BY...EXCUSE ME! I'LL SUMMON THE PROPER AUTHORITIES!
YOU DO THAT, KENT! I'LL WATCH THIS TREKKIE AND SEE IF HE'D LIKE SOME MORE!
THEN IN A NEARBY ALLEY--
LOIS WILL THINK I'VE GONE TO HIDE... AND NOBODY ELSE WILL EVEN NOTICE I'M MISSING!
--NOT WITH ALI AND AN ALIEN RIXING IT OUT FRONT!
SO IT SHOULD BE SAFE TO CHANGE--
--AND, AS THEY SAY, THIS LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR... SUPERMAN!

FOR THE ONLOOKERS WHO HAVE GATHERED, THIS HAS SUDDENLY BECOME MORE THAN A STREET INCIDENT...
SOMEONE BETTER CALL THE PRESIDENT!
WHAT'S HE GONNA DO?
WHAT DID HE SAY?
HE SAID HE GONNA DESTROY... ...UH... US!
GOOD LORD, CHUCK!
DID I HEAR RIGHT?
I LEAVE YOU NOW! I TRUST WE SHALL MEET AGAIN-- IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS!
WE'D BETTER GET A MOVE ON TOO, ALI!
RIGHT!
HEY, HOLD IT, YOU GUYS! LET ME GET A SHOT! THIS IS A HISTORIC MOMENT!
SORRY, JIMMY-- WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO WAIT FOR YOU TO RE-LOAD YOUR CAMERA!
THEY'RE GONE-- AND SUDDENLY I FEEL LIKE THE KID WHO WASN'T PICKED FOR THE TEAM!
ME TOO, JIM! I GUESS WE'LL JUST HAVE TO HAVE FAITH--
THAT, AND GET ON WITH OUR OWN JOBS WHICH RIGHT NOW IS TO TELL THE WORLD THIS... TERRIBLE NEWS!
SOON
MEANWHILE, AS NEGOTIATING TEAMS STAND BY HELPLESSLY, TOP-LEVEL MEETINGS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS ARE BEING HELD IN EVERY CAPITAL IN THE WORLD!
...POISED ON THE BRINK OF POSSIBLE ANNIHILATION!
MEANWHILE, SUPERMAN AND MUHAMMAD ALI HAVE VANISHED!
THIS IS THE LAST VIDEO PICTURE WE HAVE OF THEM /... WE CAN ONLY HOPE THEY'RE WORKING TOWARD A SOLUTION! --- WHEREVER THEY ARE!

Shipping Information

SHIPPING THE WEEK OF November 8th FOR RELEASE December 1st:

Jonah Hex #10 / Karate Kid #13 / Doorway to Nightmare #2 / Justice League of America Giant #152

SHIPPING THE WEEK OF November 15th FOR RELEASE December 6th/8th:

Shazam! #34 / Firestorm #1 / Men of War #5 / Weird War Tales #61 / The Flash #259 / Superman #321 / Batman #297 / Welcome Back, Kotter #10

SHIPPING THE WEEK OF November 22nd FOR RELEASE December 13th/15th:

Black Lightning #7 / Freedom Fighters #13 / Wonder Woman Spectacular 1978 / House of Mystery Dollar Comic #257 / Sgt. Rock #314 / Showcase (Power Girl) #98 / Brave and Bold (Batman and Wonder Woman) #140 / All New Collector's Edition #C-55: Superboy and the Legion of Super-Heroes / All New Collector's Edition #C-56: Superman Vs. Muhammad Ali

SHIPPING THE WEEK OF November 29th FOR RELEASE December 20th/22nd:

Ghosts #62 / Superman Family Dollar Comic #188 / Secret Society of Super-Villains #13 / Weird Western Tales #45 / Superboy and the Legion of Super-Heroes Giant #237 / Unknown Soldier #213 / Green Lantern - Green Arrow #102 / Steel The Indestructible Man #1

SHIPPING THE WEEK OF December 6th FOR RELEASE December 27th/29th:

All-Star Comics #71 / Witching Hour #78 / Adventure Comics #456 / Our Fighting Forces #178 / Super-Team Family Giant (New Gods and The Flash) #15 / Wonder Woman #241 / Action Comics #481 / Detective Comics #476 / The Unexpected #184

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT, BUT I HAVE TO GET RID OF THAT RED SUN PARTICLE! CAN YOU THINK OF SOMETHING TO DIVERT THOSE TINKER TOYS FOR A FEW SECONDS?
CONSIDER THEM DIVERTED!
NYAH! OVER HERE, YOU CLANKING HEAP OF NUT-GUTS!
STOP, HUMAN!
UHOH!! WOOWICH!
INSTANTLY, SUPERMAN SHIPS SAUT THE LEAD-LINED BOX HALTING THE RED SUN RADIATION!...
...AND AS INSTANTLY HIS SUPER-STRENGTH RETURNS...
SO QUICKLY INDEED, THAT INERBLY CLENCHING HIS FIST CAUSES HIS BOXING GLOVES TO EXPLODE FROM HIS HANDS!...
THAT'S IT-- MAKE A GRAB FOR ME SO I CAN...
...DO THIS!
HUMANS CEASE... RESISTANCE IS FUTI...LE... CLICK...CLICK...CLICK
SHAZAM!
CLICK... THIS... UM... CHANGES... NOTHING... YOU MUST... CLICK...
COME A BIT CLOSER, CLANKA! WE'LL SEE JUST WHAT HAS CHANGED!
CLICK! WHATEVER YOU DO TO THIS MECHANISM, WILL NOT ALTER THE FACT THAT YOUR WORLD WILL BE ANNIHILATED UNLESS YOU RETURN TO YOUR DIMENSION AND SURRENDER YOURSELVES TO THE SCRUBS WAR-SHIPS!
NOT A WORD PASSES BETWEEN SUPERMAN AND ALI AS EACH DECIDES THAT NO THREAT TO EARTH CAN BE IGNORED...
BACK THROUGH DIMENSIONAL BARRIERS THE HEROES HURTLE-- THEN UP INTO SPACE...